

# **SPO/NMSP Sustainable Seas Expeditions Planning Team**

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## **Meeting Summary March 17, 1999**

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Attendees: Laura Francis (MSD), Andy Shepard (NURP), Dan Basta (SPO), Maureen Warren (SPO), John McDonough (SPO), Paula Souik (MSD), Tom Shyka (MSD), Tom LaPointe (SPO), Craig Russell (SPO), Dave Lott (SPO), Jamie Higgins (SPO), Brian Johnson (SPO), Christine Taylor (SPO), Donna Turgeon (NCCOS), Charly Alexander (SPO)

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### **Meeting Discussion**

#### **I. Ships/Schedules** (Leads: Paul Orlando, Todd Jacobs)

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Additional West Coast Pilot Training is scheduled for March 17-21. The submersible will be outfitted with the camera system to allow for hands on training. An instruction manual will be developed either before or shortly after the first training session.

#### **II. NOS Working Groups** (Leads: John McDonough, Dan Basta)

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##### **Data Management**

The data management team is preparing for a dry run to test data management processes during the last week of refresher training in Seattle. This will include managing videotape, film and log books, as well as, positioning and tracking information. Attention will be given to developing “near real time” products.

##### **Taxonomic Directory**

A letter has been sent to all Sanctuaries regarding plans for taxonomic directories. A copy of the Vicki system has not yet been acquired.

##### **Positioning and Mapping**

A meeting will be held March 19 in Charleston, SC with ESRI, CSC, MSD and SPO personnel to discuss three topics: 1.) coordination and implementation of GIS related activities on site during each expedition; 2.) the July 24, ESRI Users conference; and 3.) the Monterey Bay Demonstration Project.

#### **III. Mission Planning** (Leads: Dan Basta, John McDonough, Todd Jacobs)

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West Coast cruise plans are posted on the web. A subgroup of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed the West Coast Cruise Plans and provided comments during a

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conference call last week. As a result, the Cruise Plan Outline has been changed and updated. (<http://sseplanning.nos.noaa.gov/Review/WestCoastCPReview.pdf>). The new format was sent to all West Coast Mission Coordinators. Due to the limited amount of time left before the West Coast expeditions begin, the Special Projects Office offered assistance with pagination to each sanctuary.

Last week Todd Jacobs, John McDonough and Dana Wilkes visited the East Coast Sanctuaries to discuss cruise plan formulation, suite of GIS products and other topics. Depending on progress made on the cruise plans over the next few weeks, a follow-up site visit to each sanctuary may not be required.

On March 24, there will be a meeting with Sanctuary Managers to inform managers on the status of SSE and Web site development, and allow for discussions between East and West coast Managers to share ideas and learn about some of the projects each site is working on. Paula Souik will confirm the time, date and location of this meeting.

## **IV. Web Site Development** (Lead: Tom LaPointe)

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Tom LaPointe will meet with Andrea McCurdy to discuss the NASA Odyssey Project proposal. NASA has agreed to provide 4-5 live uplinks. Specific sites and dives for these uplinks will be identified during the discussion, and will be confirmed following consultation with John McDonough and Dana Wilkes.

Training for the National Marine Sanctuaries Web site efforts is now complete. Roughly 15 people from Special Projects and Marine Sanctuaries Division participated in the training, which was received favorably.

Slides and presentation points are available for the Sanctuary Managers briefing.

On Friday, Mike Shelby, Craig Russell, and Tom LaPointe will review the content and structure of the first NGS graphics for the SSE Web site. Tom LaPointe and Mike Shelby will coordinate changes with NGS.

## **V. Legal Issues** (Leads: Michael Weiss, Maureen Warren)

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Nothing new to report at this time.

## **VI. Miscellaneous**

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Two items of interest will take place over the next few weeks.

?? - Congressional breakfast: SPO/MSD Planing team is working to develop a six panel exhibit.

3/24 - Sanctuary Managers Meeting: A brief overview of SSE activities, including science, outreach, web site, and cruise plans will be presented. Steve Gittings will identify someone from MSD to present the science overview and update, and will provide a one-pager on science in the marine sanctuaries for inclusion in press-kits. Justin Kenney will provide press-kits for attendees.

Kip Evans will be hired by National Geographic Society as a photographer. While this changes the MOU, availability of images does not change.

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## **Future Meetings and Important Dates**

### **MARCH 1999**

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Mar 2: Subcommittee of Technical Advisory Committee, conference call

Mar 2-5: East Coast Mission Planning Meetings

Mar 17-21: West Coast Pilot Training – Class I, Seattle

Mar 19: GIS Support meeting, Charleston, SC

Mar 20: National Wildlife Federation Washington, DC (Earle Ding Darling Award)

Mar 22-26: West Coast Pilot Training - Class II, Seattle

Mar 27-31: West Coast Pilot Training - Class III, Seattle

Late Mar: Washington, DC (tentative), Quarterly Sanctuary Manager's meeting

### **APRIL 1999**

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Apr 1-7: Shipboard training on the McArthur (no weekend work)

Apr 14-26: Gulf of the Farallones NMS Sustainable Seas Expedition (McArthur)

Apr 21: VIP Event

Apr 22: Wyland Awards Dinner (Earle)

Apr 27-May 6: Cordell Bank NMS Sustainable Seas Expedition (McArthur)